

THE PACIFIC Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - EDITOR.

MONDAY APRIL 1

The best thing the people of Honolulu can do to insure a healthful summer is to keep their premises clean, kill all the rats possible, report every case of sickness to the Board of Health and back that body in every effort it may make to keep the Asiatic quarter free from filth.

One of the features of the school-boy athletic games last Saturday was the noisy betting by outsiders. The scene was a most demoralizing one to the youngsters and ought to have been a matter of attention from the school authorities. If such events cannot take place without gambling adjuncts, then the sooner public school athletics are discouraged the better.

No news can be kept from getting out of a town which is full of press correspondents and private letter writers and which has its quota of departing and passing tourists. San Francisco tried to suppress certain reports of sickness with the result that the press from Sacramento, Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland, to New York, Boston and Philadelphia has been full of sensational and damaging conjectures.

The Algeroba tree, for which Hawaii is indebted to a priest of the Roman Catholic church, has proved itself to be the most useful of our arboreal importations. It is quick-growing and yields fuel, shade and fodder for stock. South Africa will be supplied from here with seeds and if the tree will grow to advantage there the result will be of incalculable benefit to that country where, judging from the war pictures, forests are a rarity.

The Shriners will go away from here leaving such an impression as Honolulu hopes it has made upon them. As intelligent tourists they have gone about posting themselves upon the characteristics of Hawaii, and they have done it in a way to satisfy our people that hospitality had been well bestowed. Socially and in a business way they have proved themselves to be desirable acquaintances. Speaking for this city and the Islands, the Advertiser wishes them a safe and pleasant journey to their homes and many happy returns.

THE PLAGUE STORY.

On Friday night, a well-defined story ran through the newspaper offices and other night resorts that a case of probable plague had been discovered in the remains of a Japanese woman. The Board of Health was up and about in hacks and its members were seen to be nervous and in haste. Guards were sent to prevent the removal of the body and the Executive Officer of the Board of Health went to the residence on Beretania street where the suspect had lived. By this time a knowledge of the story had reached forty or fifty or perhaps one hundred people, beginning with the Board of Health and inclusive of police, hackmen, newspaper men, undertaker, printers, men about the all-night restaurants, the telephone "Central" and those who were called up for consultation. It was certain that by morning, whether the newspapers said anything or not, the town would seethe with rumors.

The night editors of the two morning papers had a consultation and it was agreed that no good could come from trying to cover up the news—it was out already. The Board of Health, not knowing that the rumor had gone abroad, requested, through Executive Officer Pratt, that nothing be said. To this the editors of both papers demurred. Something HAD been said and more would be said; rather than let the rumor do its worst, exaggerating the slightest fact and accepting as fact the wildest suppositions, why not print a calm, impartial and official statement from the Board of Health, placing the plague story beyond the reach of conjecture.

Towards 2 a. m. the Board, after long consultation, agreed to the proposal, and a statement was given to the press, the editors of the morning papers agreeing to make no sensational addenda, although, with the full story in their possession for two hours past, they did not lack for material.

Now suppose the morning papers had preferred to keep mum. By 7 a. m. people who knew the story would have been up telling it with the usual imaginary trimmings, and having noted the reporters following the police and Board of Health about at the midnight hour and then seeing nothing about the matter in either morning paper, would have said: "The case must have been pretty bad if the Board of Health had preferred to keep mum. We can imagine the ferment as the day proceeded and the growth through rumor, of the one suspect case to several fatal ones. The position of the afternoon papers would have been most difficult. Had they said there was no suspected case, a hundred witnesses would have laughed them down; had they said there was one they would have done precisely what the morning press had done; had they said nothing, the self-evident conspiracy of silence must have added to the alarm.

Under the circumstances publicity in the form it received was the least of necessary evils. We hear it said that the San Francisco plan might have been followed, but a moment's reflection will show how impossible it is, in a small, gossiping town, to conceal facts which, in a great city, almost conceal themselves. Note the difference by illustration. Suppose, a San Francisco store is robbed of \$100,000 worth of goods. If the papers say nothing about the affair it will not be known at all in the city at large, simply because the people of the Coast metropolis are strangers to each other as a whole and groups of acquaintances are small and not gossipers about other than the social concerns of their own circle and the published news of the day. But how different in Honolulu. Let a store be robbed of \$500 and everybody in town soon hears of it, whether the papers tell the story or let it alone. Should such a robbery occur at a time subsequent to a great epidemic of robberies, the chances are that the news would fly all over town in half an hour and that the amount lost by the storekeeper would soon be fixed at \$10,000.

Fellow Citizens: Honesty is the best policy in the publication of the news as in all other things.

'HOME RULE STATESMANSHIP.

The position in which the Home Rulers in the House of Representatives have placed themselves in the matter of the proposed County Government Act is one of the most humiliating in the history of representative legislative bodies. They have not only shown themselves to be ignorant of their legislative duties and incapable of performing them, but their ignorance and incompetence are self-confessed. They not only show that they are conscious of their own deficiencies, but seem quite willing that every one should know that they are conscious of them.

Having elected a majority of both houses and having more than two to one in the lower branch, their course was plain. All they had to do was to decide on their party measures, have them put in proper shape for legislative action and then put them through. Now, what have they actually done? For weeks before the Legislature met they were in almost perpetual session. Day and night for week after week they went on caucusing, discussing, deciding, and at last, before the day appointed for the meeting of the Legislature, it was announced publicly and triumphantly that the mighty work was virtually accomplished. Every important question was settled, only a few minor details remained to be determined, and nothing remained but to quietly sit on the minority and pass whatever they had agreed upon by sheer force of numbers.

There is no occasion to more than remind our readers in a general way of the actual result thus far. The waste of time, the wrangling over petty matters, the exhibitions of personal feelings, the ignorance of their own rules, to say nothing of general legal and parliamentary forms and methods, and the futile efforts of the few more sensible members of the party to make their associates quit their foolishness and get down to business, are all matters of recent and familiar history.

The most important measures, those upon which the Home Rulers have based their platform and appealed to the voters, measures that had been declared to be fully matured, failed to appear. Not only days but weeks passed before some of these measures were introduced, and now when more than half the session has elapsed, some of the most important bills have not yet seen the light.

If there was any one thing to which the legislative majority stood especially pledged it was local self-government, county and municipal. It was represented that on this point there was practical unanimity in the ranks of all parties. For this good men agonized and good women prayed; for it children cried and refused to be comforted; at the bare mention of it the blanket "missionaries" were seized with cold chills, cramps, paralysis and mumps. Seriously, because of the absence of legislation on this subject no important measure could be completed. The tax law, the audit system, the school system, the Board of Health, in short every branch of the public service, to say nothing of the general appropriation bill, would of necessity depend upon the radical reorganization of the public machinery involved in the proposed scheme of local self-government. And yet, notwithstanding all these vital reasons for promptness, about half the session was gone before this most important and pivotal measure was introduced.

The bill took the usual course and was ordered printed, and now that it is in a shape to be read and judged of, what do we find? On examination, this benign measure, the consummate flower of Home Rule statesmanship, is found to be one of the most extraordinary conglomerations of rubbish ever put before a Legislature purporting to transact its business in the English language.

And now comes the funny part. When any Home Ruler is asked about the bill or has his attention called to any of its glaring absurdities, he assumes an expression of the most child-like innocence, declaring that he has never read the bill and does not know what is in it. So far as we can learn, the first Home Ruler is yet to be found who is willing to confess anything but ignorance on this most important and vital matter. Thus far the bill is without acknowledged father or mother. Poor Makekau, on whose doorstep it appears to have been left, and who kindly took it in and conveyed it to the asylum for legislative foundlings, probably known as little about it as the others.

When the honorable members first began their denials we naturally thought they were engaged in the game commonly described as "playing off." But after examining the bill with some care and putting the internal and external evidence together, we are satisfied that the Home Ruler is telling the truth; he is giving us "straight goods." The members, or at any rate most of them, had not read the bill, and a large proportion of their number would have been incapable of understanding it if they had. For those who do not understand English it will have to be translated, but how such a mess as the bill is in English can be translated into decent, intelligent Hawaiian, or any other language, is difficult to see.

Putting together all that is known on the subject, and assuming that the Home Rule members tell the truth, which seems no more than reasonable in view of the fact that they give away a state of things discreditable to themselves, the genesis of the County Government Act becomes quite plain.

After struggling for some weeks with the question of how they were to set about redeeming the pledges given before election; how they were to reduce to practicable shape the avowed policy of the party, they came to realize that they were up against a proposition that was, to them at least, insoluble. There was not a man in the crowd who had the necessary education, experience or general knowledge of such matters required for the task. Something had got to be done and that promptly. The sensible thing would have been to employ some competent man who understood such matters to draw up their bill for them, but the Home Rule statesman appears to have been as incapable of judging the qualifications required for such work as he was of doing it himself. The result is what might have been expected. Some smartly whose chief qualifications were probably a glib tongue and an unlimited supply of confident self-assertion was provided with a scissors and a paste-pot and set to work. When the piling and compiling was done the scraps appear to have been handed over to some typewriting master of "English" as she is wrote, who proceeded to further mutilate and muddle the work of the professor of paste and scissors.

Then apparently, without any attempt at editing, correcting, arranging or co-ordinating, the whole mass of legal protoplasm was dumped in the House. The result is before us and speaks for itself with a wealth of bad English, uncertain spelling, legal ignorance and general all round incompetence which leave nothing to be desired. If the above described state of affairs as shown by undeniable facts does not leave the Home Rule legislators in a most humiliating position, then words have lost their meaning.

JARED'S MISSION.

A friend of Jared Smith, whose anticipated coming awakes a pleasurable feeling among untutored farmers from Hawaii to Niuhau, writes the following letter:

Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.
March 30, 1901.
Editor Advertiser: Mr. Jared G. Smith, whom you have given considerable attention in your columns recently, is not as entirely ignorant of conditions here as you seem to imagine. He has passed through Honolulu four times in going to and returning from Australia. This should give him at least a glimpse of the country and show him that we are not all savages. Besides, he has frequently read copies of the Advertiser which have been sent by friends living here. So he must know we have a newspaper.

Further more, he has been employed in responsible positions by the Department of Agriculture for the past eight years and certainly would not be sent to direct an experiment station on these Islands unless he was considered a competent man to fill such a position.

The genesis of Jared, so far as this paper is concerned, rests in the following Associated Press dispatch:
WASHINGTON, March 17. — Jared Smith, who has been in charge of the offices of seed and plant introduction in the Department of Agriculture, has been directed to start in a few days for Honolulu to start an agricultural experiment station there. As director, his first work will be to teach the Hawaiian people how to grow garden truck. Most of the vegetables now consumed in the Islands are imported from San Francisco. They will be taught also the value of dairy cows among poor families and butter and cheesemaking; the forage plants most economically produced for Hawaiian consumption, and the value of poor families raising chickens and pigs.

This agricultural missionary work in the interest of the common people of the Islands will be essayed before other agricultural problems will be considered. There are 200 acres, running from the coast to the top of a mountain, set apart by the Hawaiian Legislature for this purpose. These matters will be given attention near the coast; coffee raising will be studied on the higher elevations, and forestry work will be done on the mountain tops.

We had suspected that if Jared had ever been in Hawaii he merely passed through. Had he paused here very long he would perhaps have found out that the people, particularly the Chinese people of these Islands, can teach him more about growing vegetables in Hawaii and combatting the various bugs that prey upon them than the whole Department of Agriculture collectively knows. As for the value of dairy cows among poor families, no advice from Washington are needed on that subject. It was well understood here before Jared was born; but poor families cannot buy imported feed for cows, and much of the grass that grows here has little nutriment in it but yet is strong enough to run out better grasses. Furthermore, it costs a greater sum to hire land for pasturage or to grow sorghum or other forage plants for cows than it does to buy milk. So where do the poor families and the cow come in?

Mr. Smith also imagines that the people need data about the value of raising chickens. But right here he falls into the error of the man who knows nothing about the Islands. The "value" of hens that sell at \$1.87 per head at auction and the eggs of which market at five cents apiece "needs no bush." What people want to know is how to cure certain hen diseases peculiar to this soil and climate. If Jared were a hen doctor, now, the chicken-raising people would receive him with enthusiasm. But alas Jared is one of those teachers we used to read about who went back to the old homestead to show his grandmother how to suck eggs.

Minister Wu Ting Fang is perhaps the most popular alien in the United States, but the good will of the public may be somewhat jarred when it reads the inhuman circulars which have been issued in his name or by his authority.

The restoration of Moiliili church is an event of historic interest and a sign of a marked revival of missionary spirit on these Islands.

Pleat from the Bulletin caif: "Don't touch my Jared."

HAWAIIAN LODGE, NO. 21, F. & A. M.

There will be a regular meeting of Hawaiian Lodge No. 21, F. & A. M., at its hall, Masonic Temple, corner of Hotel and Alakea streets, THIS MONDAY EVENING, April 1st, at 7:30 o'clock.

TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS.
Members of Pacific Lodge, Lodge of Progress and all sojourning brethren are fraternally invited to attend.
By order of W. M.
K. R. G. WALLACE, Secretary.

J. LANDO,

Fort Street
Has Always Up-to-Date
Shirts and Ties
COLLARS AND CUFFS,
BELTS, SUSPENDERS
AND SOX.....
BOYS' AND MEN'S CLOTHING,
Hats and Caps
STRAW, FELT AND PANAMAS,
Shirt Waists
TAR, MOTHER'S FRIEND AND
BANNER BRAND.
Depot for the Boss-of-the-Road Overalls.
Fort Street, near King.
Daily Advertiser, 75c a month.

Nothing Tastes Good

And eating is simply perfunctory—done because it must be.
This is the common complaint of the dyspeptic.
If eating sparingly would cure dyspepsia, few would suffer from it long.
The only way to cure dyspepsia, which is difficult digestion, is to give vigor and tone to the stomach and the whole digestive system.

Hood's Sarsaparilla cured the niece of Frank Fay, 104 N. St., South Boston, Mass., who writes that she had been a great sufferer from dyspepsia for six years; had been with stomach and headache. She had tried many other medicines in vain. Two bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla made her well.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Promises to cure and keeps the promise. Don't wait till you are worse, but buy a bottle today.

ANOTHER LOT of Flower

AND Vegetable Seeds

Just Arrived.

Guaranteed
Fresh!

HOLLISTER DRUG CO.

FORT STREET,
Between Hotel and King Streets.

C. H. DICKEY,
General Business Agent.
Corner King and Bethel Sts.

I WILL TRANSACT GENERAL BUSINESS OF ALL KINDS, act as trustee, guardian or administrator, collect rents, make purchases, etc., etc. All business entrusted to me will receive prompt attention.
C. H. DICKEY.

PACIFIC TRANSFER CO.

JAR. H. LOVE, Manager.
MAIN 58.
Office, King St., Next to Bailey's Cylery.

HENRY WATERHOUSE & CO

Stock and Bond Broker

Fire Insurance Agents

Commission Merchants

Careful attention given to business trusts.
In our new quarters, corner Fort and Merchant streets.

The Lace House

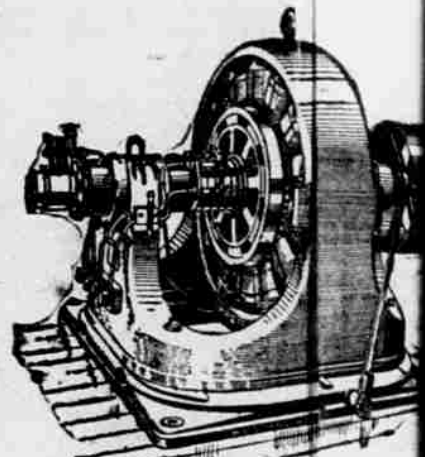
JUST RECEIVED
NEW SEASON

Shirt Waists

M. BRASCH & CO.
PHONE 157.

DYNAMOS

42 Feet High,
Weighing 870,000 pounds and having a capacity of 10,000 H. P. are being constructed
BY THE
Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co.
OF PITTSBURG, PA.



for the Manhattan Elevated Railway OF NEW YORK CITY.
They also build over 3,000 different machines of less than 100 H. P. capacity. Besides a line of these machines we carry the most complete line of Electric Fixtures and Supplies in Honolulu.

THE HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC CO., LTD.
P. O. Box 144. ALAKEA STREET. PHONE

Just Received

A SHIPMENT OF
Moët & Chandon's

Champagne

IN QUARTS AND PINTS

FOR SALE BY

H. Hackfeld & Co., Ltd.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HAWAIIAN TERRITORY

STRAW HATS MADE TO ORDER

FOR
Ladies or Gentlemen

WE HAVE JUST OPENED up a Factory and make our HATS on the premises.

THE FACTORY is under the management of a content man who has had years of experience in one of the largest establishments of its kind in Japan.

THE LADIES are especially invited to inspect our stock

We Also Trim Hats

S. OZAKI

Waverley Block Hotel St.

"KLEENO"

Something new in the Cleaning Line. Cheaper than Pearline. Come and try a sample.
SOAP-SOAP-SOAP
We have some bargains in soap for a few days. Borax Soap, 4 or 5 cakes for 25 cents. Other soaps, 6, 8 and 7 cakes for 25 cents.

SALTER & WAITY

Orpheum Block Grocers. Fort Street